[*Note.*—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II.—POINT OF ORDER *RE* NON-WAIVER OF NOTICE BY MINISTERS FOR SHORT NOTICE QUESTIONS.

SRI K. P. GOPALAN :—" Sir, I rise on a point of order. We, the Members of this House are entitled to put short notice questions if we give seven days' notice. On an important matter like the handloom strike now going on in Chirakkal, I gave notice of a short notice question, but I got a reply from the Hon. Minister in charge of Labour and Industries that he was not willing to waive notice. On an important and urgent matter like this we are entitled to put short notice questions but the Hon. Minister says that he is not willing to waive notice. Thus, our rights are being taken away one by one. I request the Hon. Speaker to give his ruling on the matter."

MR. SPEAKER :—" The question of waiving notice has to be decided by the Hon. Minister concerned as well as the Chair. As far as I am concerned, I have waived notice. But, the Hon. Minister has his difficulties. If he is in a position to give a reply in a day or two he may waive notice, otherwise he may not. So, I cannot give a ruling on the matter."

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Sir, on behalf of the Government, you will kindly allow me to explain that as a matter of general policy, we have been answering all such questions as can possibly be answered correctly and usefully within the short time available. To such questions as depend upon information to be obtained and therefore take time, we are not able to give answers. There is no intention to refuse to answer questions which can be answered." 10-10 a.m.

SRI K. P. GOPALAN :—" I beg to submit that I wanted to get information on a very important matter and gave notice of a question. I think the Government can get the information easily and submit a report to the Assembly. I hope at least in future Hon. Ministers will always waive notice in the case of urgent and important short notice questions."

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" I am not prolonging a matter which you have decided. Sir, it is necessary to have good understanding on this subject. I have explained clearly—and it is absolutely correct cent per cent—that we are prepared to answer questions on urgent matters provided we can answer them usefully on the spot. But where information has to be got, in spite of hon. Members' expectations, it is sometimes not easy to get accurate and proper information on particular matters which form the subject-matter of the questions, unless we write to the officers down below in the district wherefrom the information is to be got. They too very often depend upon information which they themselves have to gather. Therefore, it is only in cases

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where it is not possible to answer questions immediately that we refuse to answer. The hon. Member has given us very good advice that we should do our duty properly. I may also ask hon. Members not to consider only the question of importance but to consider the question of urgency also in putting a short-notice question.''

Sri K. R. VISWANATHAN :—'' Sir, I gave notice of a few very important questions as far back as 7th December 1952. These questions have been renewed from time to time at the time of reconvening the Assembly after each prorogation. But we have not had the answers to these questions till now.''

Mr. SPEAKER :—'' The hon. Member may come to my Chamber and represent these things. I will call for the file and see whether I have received answers to his questions from the departments or not. He might have come to me even earlier.''

Sri S. DEIVASIGAMANY :—'' On a point of information, Sir, how long are we to wait for answers? ''

Mr. SPEAKER :—'' I shall entertain no points of information now.''

Sri A. RATNAM :—'' ஐந்து மாதத்திற்கு முன்பு இந்தச் சபையில் நூற்றுக் கணக்காக '**short notice**' கேள்விகள் கொடுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கின்றன. ஆனால், அதே மாதிரியான கேள்விகளுக்கு மந்திரிகளால் பல முறை பதிலளிக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. காரியதரிசி கையெழுத்தில்லாமல் எனக்கு அனுப்பியிருக்கும் ஒரு கடிதத்தில், 'டிபார்ட்மெண்டிலிருந்து கேள்விகளுக்கு தகுந்த பதில்கள் கிடைக்கவில்லை. எனவே, நூற்றுக் கணக்கான கேள்விகள் அப்படியே இருந்துகொண்டிருக்கின்றன', என்று எழுதியிருக்கிறார். அங்கத்தினர்கள் கொடுக்கும் கேள்விகளுக்கு இந்த விதமாக பதில் அளிக்கப்படுகிறது, இது வேண்டுமென்று செய்யப்படுகிறதா ? அல்லது டிபார்ட்மெண்டில் 5 மாதமாக கேள்விகளுக்கு பதில் வராமல் இருக்கிறதா என்பதை கனம் சபாநாயகர் அவர்கள் விசாரிக்கும்படி கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.''

Mr. SPEAKER :—'' ஐந்து மாதங்களுக்கு முன்னால் கொடுத்த கேள்விகள் எப்படி '**short notice**' கேள்விகளாகும் ?

. . . About the other point, the Minister alone can answer. I do not know whether the Government have received information from the heads of departments.''

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—'' I cannot answer that question. If particular instances are brought to my notice, I will certainly enquire and find out what the reason for the delay is, if at all there is any delay.''

Sri V. R. NAGARAJAN :—'' Sir, as to the question raised by my hon. Friend, Mr. K. R. Viswanathan, we would like to know whether his questions were short-notice questions or ordinary starred questions.''

MR. SPEAKER :—" I do not know. If Mr. Viswanathan comes to my room I will find out whether any answers to his questions have since been received from the Government. I am sure there will be none because no question is pending in my office. As soon as we receive replies we place them before the House then and there.

" The Hon. the Leader of the House will move the Motion standing in his name."

III.—GOVERNMENT MOTIONS *RE*. APPOINTMENT OF A NEW RULES COMMITTEE.

* THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Sir, I move—

' *That in view of the changes in the composition of the Madras Legislative Assembly consequent on the formation of the Andhra State with effect from the* 1st *October* 1953, *a new Committee consisting of the following Members be appointed to make suggestions for the amendment of the Madras Assembly Rules* in lieu *of the Committee constituted by the motion made in the Assembly on the* 31*st July* 1952 :—

1. *Hon. Speaker.*
2. *Deputy Speaker.*
3. *The Hon. Sri C. Subramaniam.*
4. *The Hon. Sri K. P. Kuttikrishnan Nair.*
5. *The Hon. Sri K. Rajaram.*
6. *Sri A. S. Sahajananda.*
7. *Sri N. Ramakrishna Ayyar.*
8. *Sri S. Ramaswami Naidu.*
9. *Sri P. Ramamurthi.*
10. *Sri S. Swayamprakasam.*
11. *Sri M. Narayana Kurup.*
12. *Sri K. Uppi.*
13. *Sri V. R. Nagarajan.*
14. *Sri V. R. Krishna Ayyar.*
15. *Sri V. Balakrishnan.*' "

MR. SPEAKER :—" The question is—

' That in view of the changes in the composition of the Madras Legislative Assembly consequent on the formation of the Andhra State with effect from the 1st October 1953, a new Committee consisting of the following Members be appointed to make suggestions for the amendment of the Madras Assembly Rules *in lieu* of the Committee constituted by the motion made in the Assembly on the 31st July 1952 :—

1. Hon. Speaker.
2. Deputy Speaker.
3. The Hon. Sri C. Subramaniam.